

Many people across the Gulf Coast are still working hard to rebuild their homes, businesses and lives following last year's hurricanes. While the freedom to protest is one of the foundations of American democracy, it is important to see the effect that it can have. Today, I rise to ask that this letter be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in its entirety:

MARCHERS HURT SPIRIT, GOOD WILL

"It does not take a majority to prevail . . . but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brush fires of freedom in the minds of men."—Samuel Adams

I like to think of myself as part of that minority to whom Adams was referring. I know that some grow tired of my constant rant about freedom, about supporting this country and our leaders. Yet, I continue. Why?

Things like the peace march that left Mobile recently is one reason. When I heard about that march, I was in Gulfport, Miss., helping a man put his ceiling back in his house after it was hit by a pine tree during Hurricane Katrina.

A 60-foot pine tree will break any roof on the Gulf Coast. Sixty misguided, self-serving marchers were trying to break the good will and spirit of a people who have been through tragedy.

As I held the piece of drywall up for my friend to nail in, he asked me this: "I wonder what those marchers have done to help people rebuild here on the Gulf Coast." That struck me. What have they done?

As they marched along the road, being photographed and reveling in their notoriety, thousands of people were out there, rebuilding the Gulf Coast. And those soft-headed fabricators of veracity marched on.

As those people marched along the road, having their pictures taken by news photographers, all us old dumb guys were in the background. Black and white, Democrat and Republican, religious and not, we were repairing things, cleaning up, and making this a better place to live.

And those foot soldiers of fabrication marched on, planting their perfidious propaganda with each step. I pray that their crop will fail.—WILLIAM T. WALKER, Theodore, Alabama

HONORING MATT VALENTI NCAA WRESTLING CHAMPION

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is a special honor to recognize Matt Valenti, a student athlete from the University of Pennsylvania, who recently won the NCAA wrestling championship. Penn's sports history records need updating now to include Matt as one of only three wrestlers to have achieved this distinction as national champion. All three wrestlers are bound together by their high level of motivation and their devotion to the time-honored virtues of hard work and sacrifice.

We are all aware of the competitive nature and demanding rigors of this sport. Matt's achievements have set a new benchmark for excellence in this sport. The following statistics speak for themselves and place Matt in an elite category:

He won five consecutive matches against the nation's best wrestlers in the 2006 NCAA

Championships to win the national title at 133 lbs.

He showed courage and determination in reversing and riding Chris Fleegeer of Purdue University to win the national final 3-2.

He accomplished his title by beating the tournament's second and third-seeded wrestlers and a former national runner-up.

He had two pins in five matches at the NCAA Championships.

He showed excellence and outstanding skill by being taken down only once and reversed once in his five matches.

He became only the third national champion in the 102-year history of Penn wrestling.

He led his team to score the most points in an NCAA Championship in team history.

He is a two-time All-American, in 2004 and 2006.

On the day Matt won the NCAA Championship, the pressure on him was immense. The way he wrestled his way to the championship is a testament to his grace under pressure, his good sportsmanship, and most importantly, his example as a role model for youth that make him special to not only to wrestling fans in Pennsylvania, but to everyone who pursues the American dream.

Finally, I would be remiss, if I did not recognize the extraordinary effort and commitment of Head Coach Zeke Jones who inspires and motivates the true grit and discipline so necessary on the mats. His personal commitment to excellence has served the University of Pennsylvania well. We share his pride in Matt Valenti's tremendous success as NCAA Champion and look to Matt to take us to the 2008 Olympics.

CONSUMER CANCELLATION FAIRNESS ACT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, consumers are currently exposed to difficult cancellation policies for service subscriptions that are more costly and burdensome than continuing the service and paying the annual or monthly fee.

When consumers sign up for a service, they are often told that renewal occurs through automatic charges to their credit cards. When consumers decide to cancel, they run into difficulties, such as long distance phone calls with long hold times, all at the expense of the consumer.

To combat such abusive business practices, I have introduced the Consumer Cancellation Fairness Act.

My bill would require businesses to permit their customers to cancel subscription services in the same manner and by the same means they use to subscribe to such services.

If one click on a Web site or a toll-free call is all it takes to sign up for a service, then one click or a toll-free call should be enough to cancel.

I strongly urge this House to swiftly consider and pass the Consumer Cancellation Fairness Act to protect consumers from further abuse.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. AND MRS. WILLIE THOMAS POUNCY ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Willie Thomas Pouncy and Mrs. Lucile Pouncy on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary, which began on April 21, 1956, at Rock Elvy Baptist Church in Shady Grove, Alabama.

Mr. Pouncy is a respected member of his church and community. He has served faithfully as a deacon at Rock Elvy Baptist Church since 1954. In 1952, Mr. Pouncy was drafted in the U.S. Army, where he served during the Korean War. Upon completion of his tour of duty, he went on to own and run a small farm in Goshen, Alabama, and work on the railroad in Waycross, Georgia. He also worked for Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees for 19 years. Mr. Pouncy worked diligently to set an example to his seven sons as to what a husband and father should be, and he taught his seven daughters what traits are important in a husband. All the while, Mr. Pouncy had several admirers but none as important as his 14 children and his wife, Lucile.

Mrs. Pouncy was born Lucile Tucker in Shady Grove, Alabama. She is the embodiment of a God-fearing woman. She has always emphasized the importance of God, family, and education. Mrs. Pouncy served Rock Elvy Baptist Church as a secretary and is an usher, board member and deaconess. She managed a household of 14 children while her husband was away with work. She always made sure the homework was completed, chores finished, and Sunday school lessons comprehended. Mrs. Pouncy mastered the art of rearing with a stern will but a compassionate heart. She was not only a mother to her own children, but she served as a second mother to many of the children in the community.

I know Alabama and even our nation have benefited from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Pouncy. Among their 14 children, 32 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, there are two sons and two grandsons that have served in the recent war on terror. Additionally, they have raised: a social worker, several engineers, a bank president, a counselor, a minister, numerous business professionals, and most important to me . . . my director of constituent services.

Their 14 children: Willie Dean, Willie Thomas, Jr., Claudie Frank, Sharon (deceased), Linda, Michael, Lisha, Winfred, James, Kathy, Salena, Tyrone, Errical and Eric would like me to pass on their word of appreciation to their parents for the example they set, encouragement given, and yes, even for the discipline administered.

Mr. Speaker, in these times it is refreshing to know a family that is committed to the values and outstanding morals that Mr. and Mrs. Willie Thomas Pouncy have encouraged in their marriage and family. I have no doubt that this marriage symbolizes the strength of character and love of God that every American should emulate. Congratulations to Mr. and